Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical disk comprising:

a groove and a land formed on a substrate;

a recording region formed on the substrate for recording user data; and

a management region formed on the substrate and provided ~~adjacently to~~outside the recording region including an identification information region for recording disk-specific identification information,

wherein the ~~identification information~~management region has a flat portion formed by sectioning part of at least one of the groove and the ~~land in a given step.~~land, and

wherein the disk-specific identification information is recorded as an irreversible record mark on at least one of a groovetrack and a landtrack including the flat portion adjacent to a recording track.

2. (Previously Presented) The optical disk according to claim 1,

wherein the flat portion forms a plane having the same height as at least one of the groove adjacent to the land and the land adjacent to the groove.

3. (Previously Presented) The optical disk according to claim 1,

wherein the flat portion has a width in a perpendicular direction to a track direction which is wider in a radial direction than a width of at least one of the groove and the land.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 1,

wherein the disk-specific identification information includes any one selected from the group consisting of address information, a SYNC code, and an error detection code.

7. (Original) The optical disk according to claim 1,

wherein medium type information is recorded in the management region.

8. (Previously Presented) The optical disk according to claim 7,

wherein the medium type information includes any one selected from the group consisting of a disk type, a reflectance, a position of the recording track, a recording layer material, a playback power, and a recording polarity.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of playing an optical disk formed by providing a recording region for recording user data and a management region having an identification information region for recording disk-specific identification information on a substrate, the method comprising the steps of:

focusing a laser beam from a light source on the optical disk;

serving the focused laser beam on at least one of a groove and a land;

detecting a signal in the ~~identification information~~management region and a signal of the disk-specific identification information by use of the laser beam being served on; and

detecting a change in a signal level of the detected disk-specific identification information based on a predetermined threshold~~level.~~level,

wherein the management region has a flat portion formed by sectioning part of at least one of the groove and the land in a given step,

wherein the disk-specific identification information is recorded as an irreversible record mark on at least one of a groovetrack and a landtrack including the flat portion adjacent to a recording track, and the focused laser beam is servoed on the recording

track adjacent to at least one of the groovetrack and the landtrack recorded the disk-specific identification information as the irreversible record mark, and

wherein the disk-specific identification information is detected as an information signal by crosstalk from at least one of the groovetrack and the landtrack during playback.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of playing an optical disk according to claim 9,

wherein the threshold level is respectively set between each of a signal level of the flat portion and a signal level of the disk-specific identification information, and a signal level of the disk-specific identification information recorded on the at least one of the ~~groove~~groovetrack and the ~~land~~ landtrack other than the flat ~~portion.~~portion, and

wherein the disk specific identification information is recorded as the irreversible record mark.

12. (Original) The method of playing an optical disk according to claim 9,

wherein the threshold level is set based on medium type information recorded in advance.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of playing an optical disk according to claim 9,

wherein a signal of the disk-specific identification information recorded on the at least one of the groove and the land other than the flat portion is used as a synchronization signal, and

authenticity of the disk-specific identification information is ~~judged.~~judged,

wherein the disk-specific identification information is recorded as the irreversible record mark.

14. (Currently Amended) An optical disk drive ~~having~~ including an optical head for focusing a laser beam on an optical disk, a playback signal processing circuit for processing a signal detected from the optical disk, a controller, a servo control circuit, and a spindle motor, ~~wherein~~ the playback signal processing circuit ~~comprises:~~comprising:

a circuit for detecting a change in a signal level of disk-specific identification information recorded on the optical disk based on a predetermined threshold level; and

a circuit for judging authenticity of the disk-specific identification ~~information.~~information,

wherein the optical disk has a recording region formed on a substrate for recording user data and a management region formed on the substrate and provided outside the recording region including an identification information region for recording disk-specific identification information,

wherein the management region has a flat portion formed by sectioning part of at least one of a groove and a land,

wherein the disk-specific identification information is recorded as an irreversible record mark on at least one of a groovetrack and a landtrack including the flat portion adjacent to a recording track,

wherein the predetermined threshold level is respectively set between each of the signal level of the flat portion and the signal level of the disk-specific identification information, and the signal level of the disk-specific identification information recorded on the at least one of the groovetrack and the landtrack other than the flat portion, and

wherein the signal of the disk-specific identification information recorded as the irreversible record mark is used as a synchronization signal, and authenticity of the disk-specific identification information is judged.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The optical disk drive according to claim 14,

wherein the circuit for judging authenticity of the disk-specific identification information executes an operation including any one selected from the group consisting of termination of recording and playback, alarm display, and discharge of the optical disk.

17. (New) The optical disk according to claim 1,

wherein three different states of signal levels detecting the signal in the management region are mixed in an amplitude fluctuation,

wherein the three different states are a signal level of the flat portion,

wherein a signal level of the disk-specific identification information recorded as the irreversible record mark on the flat portion, and

wherein a signal level of the disk-specific identification information recorded as the irreversible record mark on the at least one of the groovetrack and the landtrack other than the flat portion.

18. (New) The method of playing an optical disk according to claim 9,

wherein three different states of signal levels detecting the signal in the management region are mixed in an amplitude fluctuation,

wherein the three different states are a signal level of the flat portion,

wherein a signal level of the disk-specific identification information recorded as the irreversible record mark on the flat portion, and

wherein a signal level of the disk-specific identification information recorded as the irreversible record mark on the at least one of a groovetrack and a landtrack other than the flat portion.